

August 24, 1999

Note to: Margit Aramburu  
Executive Director  
Delta Protection Commission

Subject: CalFed EIS/EIR  
Recreation Considerations

Margit,

Unavoidably, I will not be present at the special DPC meeting in Walnut Grove on Thursday evening, August 26. However, I hereby request that during the meeting, you verbally express for me my strong advocacy for the creation of an authoritative staff function within CalFed that would be charged with protecting and promoting recreation in the Delta. Such a function would be compatible with the DPC's charge to protect recreation while at the same time protecting farming interests, water conveyance and other important activities in the Delta.

I don't want CalFed to just wink at recreation and throw us a bone. Recreation, in all its varied aspects, must realistically be considered in all CalFed plans and programs over the next 30 years. Ask CalFed to create a recreation office through which all projects must pass and be scrutinized for not only impacts on recreation, but for promoting it also.

Obviously, recreation will not, and should not, occur in every nook and cranny in the Delta. But, we should and must insist on a "place at the table" where recreation voices can be heard and responded to. In 1992, then Governor Pete Wilson said that the Delta is broken. The recreation industry must be allowed to create and maintain solutions that will help fix it.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Bill Curry  
Department of Boating and Waterways